

REMARKS

The Examiner of record provided an Office Action on all pending claims. All claims were rejected on 35 USC sec. 102 under Eckert except for claims 2 and 11, which were objected to as being dependent upon rejected claims but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the previous claims. The drawings submitted were requested to be fixed to remove unnecessary markings.

The drawings have been amended to eliminate unnecessary markings as requested, and should meet the Examiners needs for examination purposes.

Claim 1 has been amended to include limitations of claim 2. Furthermore, claim 1 has been amended to delete language that is deemed unnecessary for allowance over the art of record. Specifically, claim 1 (in clean form) should read as follows:

An adjustable firearm leveler comprising:

an elongated member adapted to extend down from a firearm, the elongated member including:

a connector assembly adapted to pivotally connect to the firearm;

a base member adapted for placement on a support surface; and

a turnbuckle extending between and adjustably connecting the connector assembly to the base member; and

a sling mount coupled to the base member, designed to connect to one end

of a firearm sling.

Thus, claim 1 should now be in a condition of allowance over the art of record.

Additionally, claims 5 - 7 and 9 – 17 have been canceled in this response to the Office Action.

Further, claims 18 – 29 have been added and are deemed to be patentable over the prior art of record. Specifically, independent claim 21 is to a firearm that includes:

- a first sling mount coupled to the firearm;
- a firearm leveler, having a first end that is coupled to the firearm, and having a second end that has a second sling mount coupled thereto; and
- a firearm sling coupled between the first and second sling mounts.

None of the art of record has the limitations so claimed herein. Specifically, there is no prior art of record that teaches the use of a firearm leveler, having a first end that is coupled to the firearm, and having a second end that has a second sling mount coupled thereto. Therefore, it is believed that claims 21 – 29 are allowable.

Claims 30 – 32 have been added and are also deemed to be patentable over the prior art herein of record. Uniquely, claim 30 is to an adjustable leveler for a firearm, comprising:

a connector assembly, coupled to one end of the leveler, and adapted to pivotally connect the leveler to the firearm;

a base member, coupled to another end of the leveler, and adapted for placement on a support surface;

a turnbuckle adjustably coupled between the connector assembly and the base member; and

a sling mount coupled to the base member, designed to connect to one end of a firearm sling.

None of the current art teaches the limitations as claimed in claims 30 - 32.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested of the Examiner to allow the claims of record.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the new claims find adequate support in the original specification. Applicant believes that the pending claims have addressed each and every issue pointed out by the Examiner of record in this pending response. In light of the foregoing amendments, the claims should be in a condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to grant the allowance of the pending claims. In the event any questions remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate a telephone conference with the undersigned.

Please note the change of address provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Starkweather". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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